

Remarks

The above-identified application has been carefully reviewed and amended in light of the Examiner's communication mailed on April 1, 2008.

Without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's rejection, applicant has amended the present claims so as to obtain an early allowance in the above-identified application. Specifically, claims 41 and 45 have been canceled, without prejudice. Applicant expressly reserves the right to seek patent protection for these canceled claims and for any other claims that are supported by the above-identified application in one or more later-filed related applications.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's holding that claims 31-35, 40, 44 and 46-48 are allowed.

Thus, since claims 41 and 45 have been canceled, without prejudice, applicant notes that all of the present claims, that is claims 31-35, 40, 44 and 46-48 have been allowed. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the above-identified application to issuance at an early date. Should any matters remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to call applicant's attorney at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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